

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

California's future teachers, business owners and government leaders are all children who are currently learning and growing in our communities. It is our responsibility as caring citizens to ensure that their childhood consists of a nurturing environment where violence is never tolerated. To make certain that our state's next generation consists of well-adjusted, contributing members to society, we must take the necessary steps to prevent child abuse.

Children of all ages must receive love and support to build their self-confidence and help them flourish. Each child deserves safe surroundings where their caregiver is trusted to never put their well-being in danger. Tragically each year, nearly 500,000 reports of child abuse and neglect are received. Our efforts, therefore, must be focused on education and prevention strategies to help families before they are in crisis.

I am proud that our public agencies are partnering with community-based organizations, neighbors, schools, businesses, law enforcement and concerned citizens to protect our children from abuse. This collaborative effort is needed to also raise public awareness for families on where to receive the help they need. This month, I applaud the strides we are making as a state to reduce the risk of child abuse, and the continuing work we will accomplish – one child and one family at a time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 2007, as "Child Abuse Prevention Month."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 21st day of March 2007.



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

Debra Bowen  
SECRETARY OF STATE